Declaration of assets by Legislators

558. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to pass a legislation making it mandatory for legislators and Ministers to declare their assets and liabilities annually as is being done in other democratic countries; and

(b) if so, by when the bill is likely to be presented to Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON) : (a) and (b) Discussions have been held with various political parties on an assurance given by the Government on the subject of Declaration of Assets and Liabilities by the Ministers and Members of Parliament. As this is a sensitive and complex issue, no specific time frame can be laid down for finalising it.

Manuscripts missing from ICCR Library

559. SMT. KAMALA SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain invaluable manuscripts of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and other important documents of historical and cultural value are missing from the ICCR library;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to trace these important documents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) A preliminary check of the collection has been done and it has been found that all personal papers and manuscripts of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad are physically there in the ICCR Library. However, five manuscripts of works by other authors from the collection have not been located in the *designated section.*

(b) The details are:

1. Kulligate-c-Sadi of Sadi Mushihuddin
2. Diwan Brahman
3. Diwan Shahi Sabzrate
4. Diwan Nizam
5. Diwan Frishta M. Quasim

(c) Steps have been initiated to trace the documents.

Proposals to bring uniformity in pension to freedom fighters

560. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount of pension for freedom fighters varies from State to State;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many State Governments have recently hiked the pension to freedom fighters;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to bring uniformity in this regard; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM LAL RAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(e) and (f) State Governments function under the relevant provisions of the Constitution of India and they take decisions as per their discretion in respect of the schemes run by them. Hence it is not possible for the Central Government to bring uniformity in those schemes.

Modernization of Post Offices in hill districts of Uttar Pradesh

561. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post offices in the hill region of Uttar Pradesh have not been modernised so far;

(b) whether Government are aware that the residents of these areas, specially in the remote interior, have been facing enormous difficulties due to non-availability of letters and money orders in time;

(c) whether Government propose to upgrade the post office at village Bedgaon in Patti Maniyarsuen (poorvi) Pauri Garhwal, so that it can function as a model centre for postal